

# **Allegheny County Council**

*County of Allegheny  
436 Grant Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
Phone (412) 350-6490*



## **Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, September 11, 2014**

**4:00 PM**

**Conference Room 1**

## **Committee on Appointment Review**

*Jan Rea - Chair; Committee of the Whole*

## I. Call to Order

*The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm*

### Invited Guests:

*Invited Guests Present:*

*Council Staff Present: Joe Catanese; Walt Szymanski; Erin Graney; Stephanie Buka*

## II. Roll Call

**Members Present:** 4 - Rea, Barbara Danko, Bob Macey and Sue Means

**Members Absent:** 11 - Tom Baker, John DeFazio, Jim Ellenbogen, Michael Finnerty, Nick Futules, Amanda Green Hawkins, Heather Heidelbaugh, Ed Kress, Chuck Martoni, John Palmiere and William Robinson

## III. Approval of Minutes

[8321-14](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Appointment Review Committee Meeting of Allegheny County Council held on May 8, 2014.

**A motion was made by Macey, seconded by Danko, that this matter be Passed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

[8464-14](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Appointment Review Committee Meeting of Allegheny County Council held on June 19, 2014.

**A motion was made by Macey, seconded by Danko, that this matter be Passed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

## IV. Agenda Items

### Appointments

[8392-14](#)

Approving the reappointment of Dr. Ronald Stone to serve as a Member of the Accountability, Conduct and Ethics Commission for a term to expire on December 3, 2018.

**Sponsors:** Council Member DeFazio

*Dr. Stone reported that the ACE Commission was established in 2001, and he began serving as a member in 2002. Dr. Stone explained that the make-up of the ACE Commission consists of three (3) members of the majority party of Council and two (2) members of the minority party of Council and the group alternates chairs. He added that the Commission is empowered to receive, investigate and make findings and recommendations concerning complaints alleging the violation of the Accountability, Conduct and Ethics Code. In response to a question from Councilwoman Danko pertaining to recommendations, Dr. Stone stated that the Commission publishes annual reports and sends them to the President of Council. Dr. Stone responded to another question from Councilwoman Danko in which he noted that the Commission would defer to a Federal agency, such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In response to a question from Councilwoman Means, Dr. Stone reported that the Commission can*

effectively manage their current caseload with the assistance of the Allegheny County Human Resources and Law Departments, however, in the future the Commission may encounter a case which would require additional resources. Councilwoman Means informed Dr. Stone that William Moury, the father of Tim Moury, current Chairperson of the ACE Commission, was very ill. Councilman Macey thanked Dr. Stone for his service and expressed his appreciation for the members varying levels of experience.

**A motion was made by Macey, seconded by Means, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

[8393-14](#)

Approving the reappointment of Daniel Garcia to serve as a Member of the Accountability, Conduct and Ethics Commission for a term to expire on December 3, 2017.

**Sponsors:** Council Member Means, Council Member Baker, Council Member Kress and Council Member Rea

*Mr. Garcia stated that it's an honor to serve Allegheny County in this manner, and it's his way of giving back to the community. In response to a question from Councilman Macey, Mr. Garcia reported that the services of the Allegheny County Law Department has worked just fine. Councilman Macey reported that having met Mr. Garcia, he held great respect for his work on the Commission, and in particular, the Commission's strong emphasis on confidentiality. Mr. Garcia noted that it's incredibly important to maintain confidentiality in order for the process to work, and in order to protect those making claims and those defending themselves against claims. Councilwoman Means thanked Mr. Garcia for his service and informed him that William Moury, the father of Tim Moury, current Chairperson of the ACE Commission, was very ill. Mr. Garcia advised Councilwoman Danko that he is a resident of O'Hara Township.*

**A motion was made by Macey, seconded by Means, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

[8459-14](#)

Approving the appointment of Tonya B. Johnson to serve as a Member of the Accountability, Conduct and Ethics Commission for a term to expire on December 31, 2015.

**Sponsors:** Council Member DeFazio

*Ms. Johnson provided members with an overview of her legal background and volunteer experience. She noted that in order to lend fairness to the process, it's important to have members with different perspectives. In response to a question from Councilwoman Danko, Ms. Johnson reported that she does not have any contracts with Allegheny County, nor has she done any work for the County. Ms. Johnson explained to Councilwoman Means that she was a founding member of the now defunct Western Pennsylvania Diversity Initiative, an organization that worked with human resources professionals and corporations in the region to employ individuals and demonstrate the value of a diverse workforce. In response to a question from Councilwoman Danko, Ms. Johnson explained that she learned about the Commission from Councilman Macey. Ms. Johnson stated that Councilman Macey made a recommendation for her to serve as a board member on a community group in West Mifflin several years ago, and in a similar fashion, the councilman approached her concerning the ACE Commission. Councilman Macey stated Ms. Johnson would be an asset to the Commission, he mentioned it to her, and Ms. Johnson sent a letter of interest to the Chairman of the ACE Commission.*

**A motion was made by Macey, seconded by Danko, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**V. Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 pm*